

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05

ACDA-05 BIB-01 CU-02 /086 W  
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R 021845Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3433  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY VALETTA  
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4118

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: CSCE PFOR XG  
SUBJECT: CSCE: NEW MALETESE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH RUNS INTO HEAVY  
OPPOSITION

REF: GENEVA 3830

1. SUMMARY: NEW MALTESE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH PROPOSING  
MEDITERRANEAN-ARAB COOPERATION AND MUTUAL WITHDRAWAL  
OF SOVIET AND US FORCES FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN RAN INTO  
HEAVY, BROADLY BASED OPPOSITION AT MEDITERRANEAN WORKING  
GROUP MEETING ON MAY 30. END SUMMARY.

2. WITH HELP OF DISCREET BUT POINTED URGING ON OUR PART,  
EC-NINE AND MOST OF THE NATO CAUCUS AGREED TO TAKE FIRM  
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POSITION AGAINST NEW MALTESE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH ON

GROUND THAT IT WENT FAR BEYOND CSCE MANDATE AS DEFINED IN THE HELSINKI BLUE BOOK. AS A RESULT FRG, BELGIUM, IRELAND AND GREECE MADE POLITE BUT ANAMBIGUOUS STATEMENTS TO THIS EFFECT IN WORKING GROUP MAY 30, SUPPLEMENTING WESTERN STATEMENTS MADE AT PRECEDING MEETING BY ITALY, FRANCE, THE UK AND OURSELVES. SOMEWHAT MORE AMBIVALENT BUT STILL HELPFUL REMARKS WERE MADE BY SPAIN, PORTUGAL AND CYPRUS, ALL OF WHOM AGREED THAT PARAGRAPH WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN PRESENT CONTEXT, BUT DID EXPRESS VARYING DEGREES OF POLITE INTEREST IN ITS "IDEAS". DUTCH, WHO ARE STILL VERY MINDFUL OF THEIR RECENT DIFFICULTIES WITH THE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES, WERE ONLY WESTERN COUNTRY WHICH SPECIFICALLY ASKED IN NATO CAUCUS TO BE EXCUSED FROM THE DISCUSSION. NO ONE SPOKE IN FAVOR OF MALTESE PARAGRAPH.

3. KEY TO WESTERN EFFORTS TO PROVIDE MALTESE AMBASSADOR GAUCI WITH CONVINCING AMMUNITION WAS OF COURSE SOVIET REACTION, WHICH WESTERN DELS LEARNED IN CORRIDORS WAS SCHEDULED FOR A LATER MEETING. AFTER POINTING OUT RISK THAT SUCH DELAY MIGHT ONLY ENCOURAGE MIINTOFF, SOVIET DELEGATION, ECHOED BY BULGARIANS, AGREED TO MAKE FIRM STATEMENT PARALLELING WESTERN POSITION MAY 30. IN DOING SO SOVIET REP IN FACT WENT FURTHER AND ALSO JOINED IN WESTERN APPEAL TO MALTESE TO WITHDRAW THEIR PARAGRAPH.

4. AT END OF MEETING, MALTESE AMBASSADOR GAUCI RESPONDED WITH SHORT STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT HE WOULD PROVIDE HIS GOVERNMENT A FULL REPORT OF REACTIONS; THAT HE WOULD REPLY "IN DETAIL" AT NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING ON JUNE 2 TO "COMMENTS" WHICH HAD BEEN MADE ON MALTESE PROPOSAL; AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT CONTINUED TO ATTACH "EXTREME" IMPORTANCE TO THIS PARAGRAPH. HE ENDED WITH VEILED THREAT THAT CONFRONTATION ON THIS ISSUE COULD "ONLY IMPEDE WORK IN OTHER CSCE SUBCOMMITTEES".

5. IN CORRIDOR DISCUSSION AFTER MEETING AMBASSADOR GAUCI (PLEASE PROTECT CAREFULLY) TOLD US REP THAT HE WAS CONTINUING TO DO HIS BEST TO GET MINTOFF OF THIS PARAGRAPH, BUT THAT, AS USUAL, MINTOFF WAS SINGLE MINDED  
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AND CLEARLY ENJOYING ROLE OF "MOUSE THAT ROARED". IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION ITALIAN REP REITERATED "POSSIBILITY" THAT GOI FONOFF SEC GEN DUCCI OR COMPARABLE HIGH ITALIAN OFFICIAL MIGHT BE SENT TO VALLETTA SOON IF MINTOFF SHOULD PERSIST IN THIS VERY AWKWARD PROJECT. DALE

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